NINTH REPORT

STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS (1994-95)

(TENTH LOK SABHA)

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING— FILMS DIVISION

Presented to Lok Sabha on.....
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COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS
(1994-95)

Kumari Vimla Verma—*Chairperson*

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3. Shri S.K. Sharma — *Under Secretary*

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Communications (1994-95) having been authorised by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Ninth Report on Films Division relating to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

2. The Committee took oral evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting at their sitting held on 28 October 1993. The Committee wish to express their thanks to the officers of the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting for giving evidence before the Committee and also for placing before them the material which they desired in connection with the examination of the subject.

3. The Report was considered and adopted by the Committee at their sitting held on 6 October, 1994.

4. For facility of reference and convenience, the observations and recommendations of the Committee have been printed in bold letters in the body of the Report.

NEW DELHI;
October 6, 1994
Asvina 14, 1916 *(Saka)*

KUMARI VIMLA VERMA
Chairperson,
Standing Committee on Communications.

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTORY

1.1 The Films Division is the central film producing organisation of the Government of India. It was established in 1948 to serve as an important media unit of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. The Division is reported to be one of the largest short film producing establishments in the world. Its role is mainly to project schemes and plans relating to nation-building efforts and to document and record events for posterity.

1.2 The Films Division has its headquarters at Bombay. There are four production centres located at Bombay, Delhi, Calcutta and Bangalore.

1.3 The organisation of the Films Division is divided into three wings, *viz;* (i) Production wing (ii) Distribution wing, and (iii) Administration wing. In addition a separate cell has been created to lookafter the work relating to the organisation of the International Festival for Documentary and Short Films, every alternate year.

Objectives

1.4 The main aims and objectives of the Films Division are:

(i) to educate and motivate people towards enlisting their active support and participation in the implementation of various national programmes;

(ii) to project the image of the land, the people and the heritage of India for international appreciation. (In order to achieve this objective the XP Division of the Ministry of External Affairs selects suitable films from the Films Division and distributes them to all the Indian Missions abroad); and,

(iii) to foster the growth of the documentary film movement as it is of immense significance in the field of national information, communication and integration, by harnessing the energies and talents from all over the country for production of documentary films.

1.5 The Division is stated to be primarily responsible for the production and distribution of news magazines (formerly, newsreels), documentaries, 16 mm and other films required by the Government of India, for public information, education, motivation and for instructional and cultural purposes. The Films Division is also required to advise Government in

matters pertaining to films for communication and to discharge such other duties relating to film activity as the Government may direct from time to time.

1.6 In addition, the Films Division also undertakes production of films of the following types:

(i) Films to further the national campaigns launched by the Central Government on important subjects, *viz.* the new economic programme, family planning, savings, national integration and other themes identified from time to time for positive publicity.

(ii) Films on current topics of national importance. *viz* ceiling on properties, mob-violence, census operations, elections and so on.

(iii) Films on the activities of the public sector undertakings on direct payment basis (through private producers).

1.7 The annual target for production of films by the Division has been set out as under:—

(a) *Films for theatrical release*

News Magazines	26
Documentaries	26

(b) *Films for non-theatrical release through in-house production*

16 mm featurettes	:	12
Special documentaries sponsored by various Ministries, Government departments, public enterprises	:	10
Defence instructional and training films	:	8-10
Agricultural instructional and training films	:	12-18
Films for the Deptt. of Family Welfare	:	15-20
Through outside producers:		
Special documentaries	:	20
16 mm featurettes	:	16

1.8 The Committee note that the Films Division has made a significant contribution to the growth and development of the documentary film movement in the country. The Division caters to a large number of cinema theatres all over the country, non-theatrical circuits like the Directorate of Field Publicity, mobile units of the State Governments, Doordarshan, field units of the Department of Family Welfare, educational institutions and voluntary organisations. However, the total number of films being produced has declined from 220 in 1988-89 to 112 in 1992-93. There may be reasons for this trend. However the Committee feel that considering the spread and reach of the audio-visual media, and the social obligations expected to be discharged by the Films Division, a thorough review of the present day role and activities of the Division is required.

CHAPTER II

PRODUCTION

2.1 The production wing of the Films Division consists of four major sections, each responsible for the production of : (i) documentary films; (ii) news magazines; (iii) short feature films (16 mm) specially designed for rural audiences; and (iv) animation films, respectively.

(a) Documentaries and News Magazines

2.2 The documentary films produced by the Films Division covers various facets of the life and culture of the country as well as themes and topics ranging from agriculture to art and culture, from technology to tribal welfare, and so on. In-house production accounts for about 60% of the production of documentaries. The rest are either completed by associating prominent independent directors on *ad-hoc* basis on a fixed fee, or by assigning the production of films to independent producers. Independent directors and producers are associated so as to encourage individual talent and the documentary movement in the country.

2.3 The films Division covers and projects through its news magazines major national news events such as political happenings, economic developments, social problems, all major programmes and policies of the Government, as well as issues pertaining to the environment, rural and tribal development, communal harmony, national integration and defence matters. The official visits abroad of the President and Prime Minister, international conferences and summit meetings are also covered.

2.4 News magazines/documentaries provide an audio visual record of history and the films have great archival value, as coverage on celluloid has a life of more than a 100 years. In contrast, coverage on a video format has a life of 5—20 years.

2.5 The Committee enquired how far the Films Division has been able to achieve the objectives so far as the production of documentaries and news magazines are concerned. In reply, a representative of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting stated in evidence as under:—

> "As far as the production of documentaries and news magazines are concerned, although there is a pretty large set up in the News Division, there was a time when it used to produce about 100 documentaries and 52 news reviews a year. But, since 1985 the number has come down a great deal now to about 26 news magazines, not even news reviews, because by the time the news reviews are produced they are rather out of date, and an equal number of documentaries which means it has come down from

110 to 26 per year. Of course, this does not include the feature advertisements which are produced by the Films Division for various specific purposes. This is not entirely due to the development of the electronic media, but it is partly due to that and as the years had progressed, a large number of Ministries have started making their own documentaries, like the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Ministry of Welfare, Department of Women and Child Development etc. The earlier system of the Films Division making documentaries for all the Ministries and the Departments no longer holds good and that is why, the number has come down."

In reply to a query by the Committee, they were informed that "Doordarshan do not avail news magazines produced by the Films Division because they produce their news bulletins every day and in addition to that they make their own current affairs programmes also."

2.6 The Tables below give an idea of the number of documentaries and news magazines which are being currently produced.

(A) Documentaries (including news magazines)

	Tgts 1992-93	Achmnts 1992-93	Tgts 1993-94	Anticipated action 1993-94	Tgts 1994-95
(i) In-house Production					
(a) Non-Plan	84	67	91	84	91
(b) Plan	10	—	12	5	12
(ii) Outside Production through Independent Producers					
(a) Non-Plan	26	13	20	15	20
(b) Plan	6	5	16	5	16
Total	126	85	139	109	139

(These figures include the Agriculture Films and Family Welfare Films financed from funds of respective departments as well as films by independent producers.)

B. Production figures for the last 5 years

Year	Doc.films (incl. those on Family Welfare)	New Magazine
1988-89	183	30
1989-90	78	23
1990-91	136	34
1991-92	65	29
1992-93	76	27

In the context of declining trend in the production of documentary films and News magazines, the Committee enquired if a time might come when the Films Division would have to be wound up. In reply. they were informed that it would not be so as the Films Division has been earning revenue to the tune of Rs. Seven crores by recovery of rentals from cinema theatres and through sale of film prints and cassettes. If the Division has the right kind of marketing structure, it would enhance its financial position to a great extent. Besides, it was stated that there is great possibility of generating further revenues by giving greater publicity to the films numbering about 7000 available in the library with the Films Division.

2.7 The Committee were informed that as against the annual production of 52 newsreels and 104 documentaries, prior to 1984-85. For release in the national theatrical circuit. The corresponding figures are now 26 each. Earlier, the Films Division used to release two documentaries and one newsreel every week in the theatrical circuit. In 1984, the newsreel was substituted by news magazine. As it was found that by the time newsreels were released they tended to lose their topicality. Also, from 1984 the Films Division started releasing only one film (documentary or news magazines, alternatively) every week in theatres in an attempt to give better exposure to every individual film.

2.8 The Committee note that the spread of the electronic media has possibly rendered documentaries and news magazines less popular than they were formerly. With the result that their annual production has decreased. Significantly, this reduction would affect the main objective which documentaries and news magazines were to serve. The Committee emphasise that it is very essential to take stock of the changed situation today and to study how best the production of documentaries and news magazines can serve the purposes for which they are intended.

2.9 The Committee also note that by and large Doordarshan does not make use of the films produced by the Films Division, because they produce their own news bulletins every day as well as their own current affairs programmes. The Ministry have informed that Doordarshan is a major user of the Films Divisions's past news coverages. Foreign TV networks also approach the Films Division for visual material of both documentaries and past coverages. The Committee feel that it would be commercially feasible if steps are taken to supply Doordarshan regularly with current films of good quality on subjects not covered by Doordarshan. These films could be telecast on the national network to ensure wider audience coverage. The Committee feel that there is need

for greater interaction between the Films Division and Doordarshan, so that the capacities developed by these two organisations can supplement each other.

2.10 The Committee note that about 7000 films are available with the Films Division in their library. These should be given wide publicity so that greater revenue can be generated through their sale. The Division should make serious efforts to explore the possibilities of sale of news magazines to video libraries, cable operators and TV networks. The Committee note that, presently, the Films Division lacks a proper marketing structure to deal with the crucial aspect of sale of the Division's output. This lacuna needs to be rectified.

(b) Posting of Newsreel/Assistant Newsreel Officers

2.11 News magazine production is undertaken by a team of officers under the Joint Chief Producer (Newsreel) stationed in Bombay under whom there are 13 Newsreel Officers (NROs) and 5 Assistant Newsreel Officers (ANROs), who cover important news items from the various centres for inclusion in the news magazines. (see Annexure I).

2.12 The Committee enquired if the number of Newsreel Officers is sufficient to cover important news items at various centres for inclusion in the news magazines. In reply a representative of the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting stated:

> "It is not sufficient but in the situation that we have now we can spare only one person, we have no other alternative and that person is covering all the States."

2.13 Given the length and breadth of the country and the vast number of events and issues which the Films Division seeks to cover in the news magazines/documentaries, the Committee feel that the present strength of NROs and ANROs is inadequate. In some cases States have been clubbed together with provision for a single NRO or ANRO. At present there are vacancies in Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Chandigarh, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Andaman, Nicobar Islands, which have not been filled up. Some of the vacancies have not been filled up for the last four years.

2.14 The Committee are dismayed to find that the State Capitals of Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland. Tripura and Sikkim have not been provided with either NROs or ANROs. All these States are covered by an NRO stationed at Guwahati and that post too was lying vacant till very recently. The Committee note with regret that there seems to be no move to improve this dismal position. The Committee stress that the posting of a News Reel Officer at Guwahati recently cannot be said to have improved the position in the North-East satisfactorily. The North-east should not be treated as a monolithic entity. It will be erroneous to

asume that all the States can be served from Guwahati. The Committee are not at all impressed by the plea that the coverage of the north-eastern region is also undertaken by Doordarshan and that news magazine films are primarily for historical records/archieval purposes. The Committee urge that adequate steps should be taken to rectify the situation.

(c) Production of Films for Ministries/Deptts.

2.15 The Delhi production unit of the Films Division has the responsibility of production of instructional and motivational films for the Ministries of Agriculture and Defence, and the Department of Family Welfare. Films for the other Ministries are made in Bombay.

2.16 The Table below indicates the targets and achievements for the years 1992-93 and 1993-94.

	Tgts. 92-93	Achmnts. 92-93	Tgts. 93-94	Antici-pated Achmnts. 93-94	Tgts. 94-95
1. Agricultural films financed by Ministry of Agriculture	12—18	2	12—18	5	12—18
2. Family Welfare films financed by Family Welfare Deptt.	15—20	14	15—20	20	15—20
Total	27—38	16	27—38	25	27—38

2.17 The Committee have been informed that the Ministry of Agriculture are getting their documentary films produced themselves through private producers. The Committee learn that on the recommendation of the Committee of Secretaries in 1991, the separate Agricultural Unit of the Films Division set up in 1957 for the purpose of producing research and instructional films on agricultural subjects has been wound up. The result is that these films are no longer being made by the Films Division.

2.18 The Committee have also been informed that the Departments of Social Welfare, and Women and Child Development, also make their own films, although a number of films for the Family Welfare Department are still being made by the Films Division.

2.19 The Committee are concerned to note that although the Films Division has been entrusted with the task of attending to all the publicity requirements of all the Ministries and Departments of the Governments of India, a number of Ministries particularly Agriculture and Welfare are making their own films through independent film producers.

2.20 The Ministry of Information & Broadcasting have informed that the Films Division is not always able to meet the deadlines set by the Ministries and this may be one reason why they turn to private producers. Apart from this, they have indicated that coordinating between the Delhi and Bombay units poses its own problems. However, the Committee note, by and large, the Films Division seems to have no clear idea as to why Ministries are increasingly making their own arrangement for the production of films that they require. The Committee regret to learn that so far no coordinated effort has been made to remedy the situation.

2.21 The Committee observe that the departure from the earlier pattern undermines one of the important objectives which the Films Division is expected to fulfil. It is important to remember that the production of documentary films through the Films Division for the use of various Ministries/Departments is not only in consonance with the allocation of Business Rules but also ensures a wide viewership and optimum utilisation.

2.22 Recognising this the then Secretary, Information and Broadcasting had written to all the Ministries and Departments of Government of India on 15 October, 1991 (Annexure-II) requesting their cooperation in making use of the facilities available with the Films Division. The Committee note with dismay that no follow-up action has been undertaken. They urge that the matter be looked into without delay.

2.23 The Committee recommend that the problem of coordination between Delhi and Bombay centres must be resolved quickly. Certainly, in this age of vastly improved communication links such as FAX, telexes and telephones, lack of coordination between the centres should not be an excuse for delay on the part of the Films Division.

2.24 The Committee take a serious view of the fact that the failure to use the facilities available with the Films Division for the purpose of producing documentaries is leading to under-utilisation of facilities created at enormous cost. The Ministry have stated that presently they have fewer number of films in hand and they propose to review whether they can increase the number of films or cut down the infrastructure. The Committee urge that the Ministry should explore the possibilities of the maximum use of the infrastructure including the lending of facilities to fresh graduates of the Film and Television Institute of India, Pune, to make experimental films.

(d) 16mm Featurettes

2.25 The Films Division has been producing featurettes specially designed for rural audiences of the southern and eastern parts of the country through its regional production centres at Bangalore and Calcutta. These hour-long films are different from the usual narrative documentary films with all the entertainment elements of a regular feature film. The

Bangalore centre has been producing featurettes in Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam and regional dialects. The Calcutta centre produces films in Bengali, Assamese, Oriya, Manipuri, Nagamese and other regional dialects.

2.26 The regional production centres have so far produced 82 features (details in Annexure-III). Five of the films have won national awards as best regional feature film of the year of their production. All these films have been shown through the field units of the Directorate of Field Publicity and regional television centres. Feedback reports indicate that the response to these films has been very encouraging.

However, in the period 1989-93, only 26 films have been produced as detailed below:

1989	2
1990	7
1991	6
1992	6
1993	5

It has been stated that the decline in the production of these films in recent years is on account of these films being of long duration.

2.27 The Committee are surprised to note that despite the avowed importance/popularity of 16 mm short feature films, the number of such films produced in the last five years is very small. Since the inception of the regional centres in January 1982, and the start of production in 1983-84, 82 such films have been produced. Of these only 26 films have been produced in the last 5 years (1989-93). Considering the substantially greater number of films produced in the preceding period (56 during 1984 to 1988) and the fact that all such films are of one hour's duration each, the plea that the decline in production is on account of these films being of long duration is not tenable.

2.28 Currently, the 16mm featurettes are primarily serving audiences in the southern and eastern States. The language-wise break up is as under:

Total No. of 16 mm films - 82

Hindi	22
Bengali	17
Kannada	9
Tamil	7
Telugu	6
Oriya	6
Assamese	4
Malayalam	4
Adi	1
Idu	1
Khasi	1

Marathi	1
Manipuri	1
Nagamese	1
Santhali	1
(details in Annexure-III)	

2.29 The Committee observe that all the languages and regional dialects of the sorthern and eastern States are not being adequately covered in the 16mm featurettes being made at Bangalore and Calcutta. They recommend that serious attention may be paid to better representation of these languages.

2.30 There are at present no regional production centres which can cater to the central, western and northern regions. The Committee have been informed that the four production centres of the Films Division located at Bombay, Delhi, Calcutta and Bangalore are inadequate to meet the requirements for the entire country. In pursuance of the recommendations made by the Estimates Committee in its 83rd Report (8th Lok Sabha) a scheme for opening of two more Regional Production Centres at Lucknow and Bombay for production of featurettes in the languages and dialects spoken in the Northern and Western region has been included in the 8th Plan. The Committee find that at the time of formulation of the 8th Five Year Plan, a provision of Rs. 900 lakh was projected for the continuing scheme: "Production of special featurette films in 16mm especially intended for rural audience and development of 16mm technology". This scheme included the opening of 2 more regional production centres for production of 16mm featurettes for Western and Northern regions at Bombay and Lucknow. However, actual allocation has been Rs. 650 lakh as against the Rs. 900 lakh projected earlier. The Ministry have informed that "in view of the paucity of funds it is not possible to set up the two proposed additional centres".

2.31 Further, although the Films Division had projected the need for an additional centre at Bhubaneswar (for documentaries and short feature films), the Ministry has not taken a decision on this in view of the fewer number of films being made. The Ministry have indicated that any additional centre can only be opened after thoroughly assessing the need.

2.32 The Committee stress that it is as necessary to make an adequate number of films in the languages and dialects of the Central, Northern and Western States, particularly tribal languages and dialects, so as to reach rural audiences in all parts of the country through the medium of the local language and idiom.

2.33 The Committee appreciate that the feasibility of opening more films producing centres is ultimately linked to the actual output by the Films Division. In view of the steady reduction in the number of films being produced, the Committee urge that a comprehensive review be made by Government to assess the present and future role and requirements of the

Films Division. In the course of this review, the utility and relevance of the 16mm technology also needs to be reassessed.

(e) Animation Films (Cartoon Films Unit)

2.34 The Cartoon Films Unit was established in 1957 at the headquarters at Bombay. The Unit has produced a number of animation films. It also prepares animation sequences for the documentaries and news magazines and is now equipped for production of puppet films also.

2.35 The number of animation films produced in the last five years is as under:

1988-89	5
1989-90	7
1990-91	6
1991-92	6
1992-93	5

2.36 The Committee observe that Rs. 50 crore have been sanctioned in the 8th Plan for the expansion of Cartoon Films Unit for production of animation films. (Annexure-IV). However, in the first three years of the plan period, no part of the sanctioned amount has been utilised for the intended purpose.

2.37 The Committee are concerned to note that despite availability of funds, steps have not been taken to adequately expand the Cartoon Films Unit. The number of films produced annually by the Unit has remained very small despite the fact that these films are stated to be very popular. The Committee regret to note that even the sanctional budgetary outlay of Rs. 20 lakh during the years 1992-93 and 1994-95 on the Cartoon Films Unit, has not been utilised. They would like to be apprised of the reasons therefor.

(f) Review of Annual Production Programme

2.38 The activities of the Films Division are monitored by the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting. Prior to 1984-85, the annual production programme of Films Division was being reviewed annually, at a meeting of representatives of all Ministries/Departments, held under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting. But with the expansion of the electronic media and the drastic cut in the number of films produced every year, the practice of discussing the annual production programme has been discontinued. A review was made in February 1993, of all the subjects included in the production programme of the Films Division. In addition, the Ministry have also reviewed the policy guidelines for production of documentary films featurettes, animation films and news magazines.

2.39 The Films Division serves the objective of dissemination of social, cultural and scientific values across the length and breadth of the country, through the medium of films. It is, therefore, imperative that the Films

Division maintains a strict vigil over the quality of its production. Quality control is also important because the in-house output of the Films Division must be able to match the generally high standards of outside/independent productions which are acquired by the Films Division. The Committee, therefore, urge that the Division should revive the useful practice of annual production programme review at the meeting of representatives of all Ministries/Departments and the quality of the films produced by the Division should also be discussed at these review meetings.

CHAPTER III

DISTRIBUTION

(a) Release of Films in the Theatre Circuit

3.1 The Films Division undertakes theatrical and non-theatrical distribution of documentaries and news magazines. Theatrical distribution is done through its 10 distribution branch offices located at Bangalore, Bombay, Calcutta, Hyderabad, Lucknow, Madras, Madurai, Nagpur, Thiruvananthapuram and Vijayawada.

3.2 Theatrical distribution is done through cinema houses (in India). Under Section 12(4) of Part III of the Cinematograph Act, 1952, it has been laid down that:

> "The Central Government may, from time to time, issue directions to licensees generally or to any licensee in particular for the purpose of regulating the exhibition of any film or class of films, so that scientific films, films intended for educational purposes, films dealing with news and current events, documentary films or indigenous films secure an adequate opportunity of being exhibited and where any such directions have been issued those directions shall be deemed to be additional conditions and restrictions subject to which the licence has been granted."

Part III of the Act in which section 12(4) appears applies to the Union Territories, and the States have their own State Cinema Regulations which contain a similar provision. Therefore, under the Cinematograph Act, 1952, and the corresponding State Cinema Regulations and the Rules framed thereunder, every cinema theatre is granted licence on the condition that it exhibits in every film show an approved documentary news magazine film of a length not exceeding 609.60m.

3.3 The number of cinema houses supplied with approved films released by the Films Division every week is as under:—

1992-93	13.002
1993-94	13.391
1994-95	13.391

3.4 400 colour prints of films (documentary of news magazine) in 15 languages are supplied to all the cinema theatres in the country every week. These films are to keep shifting from one theatre to another, after being exhibited for one week in each theatre, till such time that all the

13.391 theatre are covered. It is estimated that through the theatre network these films could reach an audience of approximately 9 to 10 crore every week, including 5 to 6 lakh from the border areas and the Union Territories of Andaman and Nicobar and Lakshadweep islands.

3.5 In this connection the Ministry have informed that various petitions have been filed in different courts (two in the Supreme Court in 1991, two in the High Court, Bangalore in 1993, and one in the High Court, Hyderabad in 1993) challenging the right of Government to force the cinema theatres to utilize the time slot of upto 22 minutes before each and every public show for compulsory screening of approved films. The Films Division charges the theatres at the rate of 1% of the actual gross box office collection (excluding entertainment tax) as service charges. The exhibitors feel that the exhibition of approved films means only screening of publicity and advertisement films of the Government and therefore want that they may be paid for the time consumed by the Government for screening of approved films. The Government on the other hand, is of the view that they are discharging a social obligation. The matter is yet to come up for hearing before the courts. However, till such time as the matter is decided in the courts, the relevant section 12(4) of the Cinematograph Act, 1952 continues to remain in force.

3.6 The Committee desired to know what procedure was being followed to ensure that news magazines produced by the Films Division were being regularly shown by the exhibitors in theatres. In reply. they were informed that, "the checking part of the work is done by the State Government. Officers in the Entertainment tax wings go and check and give us the feed back. Even the licences has to be cancelled by the State Government only".

3.7 In reply to another query in this regard, the Committee were informed that the Films Division's own staff spread all over the country were given permission to check whether Films Division films were being shown or not and they sent the feedback to the Films Division.

3.8 The Committee were informed that the authority to issue licences to cinema theatres, as well as to renew or cancel them, lies with the District Administration of the concerned states.

3.9 The Films Division is at present the only agency for distribution of approved films to cinema theatres in order to help them to meet the lincencing condition of compulsory screening of approved films. Out of the total annual budget allocation for the Films Division, more then 50% goes towards distribution alone. (Out of the total budgetary allocation of Rs. 18.23 crore in 1992-93 the Ministry have informed that expenditure on distribution was Rs. 12 crore.)

3.10 The Committee strongly feel that since the Films Division arranges for perpetual and uninterruped supply of approved films to cinema theatres, and at enormous cost, it is essential that there is compliance of the licencing stipulation by cinema theatres to serve the objective of informing the

people about the developments in the country and enlist their support in nation-building.

3.11 The Committee are distressed to note that the potential to reach a large cross-section of the population through news magazines/documentaries remains sadly unfulfilled. This is because, by and large, film exhibitors avoid screening these films, although non-screening is a violation of law. Generally, A-Grade theatres are reported to be complying with the provisions of the law, whereas B and C grade theatres, are seen to default. The Committee feel that one of the ways to interest exhibitors in the films produced by the Films Division is to improve their quality and entertainment value, while retaining their informative value.

(b) Non-theatrical Distribution

3.12 So far as non-theatrical distribution is concerned, the Films Division presently supplies prints of its films to mobile units of State Governments and the Directorate of Field Publicity. The Films Division also endeavours to arrange for commercial distribution of its films through the National Films Development Corporation (NFDC) and other parties. The Films Division sells stock shots for commercial and non-commercial use at the rate fixed by Government from time to time.

3.13 The Committee are sorry to note that as against the target of 3094 for sale of non-theatrical prints in 1992-93, the actual figure was only 269; and against the target figure of 5960 for 1993-94, the actual figure was 978 (upto 22.12.93). Also, the anticipated revenue for 1992-93 through sale of prints and stock shots was Rs. 120 lakh. However, actual revenue earnings were Rs. 12.02 lakh from sale of prints and stock shots. This is a serious matter and the Committee would like to know the reasons for this unsatisfactory performance.

CHAPTER IV

CHANGES IN STAFFING PATTERN

4.1 The Committee are informed that the Staff Inspection Unit (SIU) of the Ministry of Finance had recommended the abolition/creation/ upgradation/downgradation of posts so as to improve the staffing pattern of the Films Division and its Distribution Branch Offices. Details of the Staffing pattern is given in Annexure V.

4.2 In short, the recommendations are as under:

Abolition of Posts	—	69
Creation of Posts	—	27
Upgradation of Posts	—	14
Downgradation of Posts	—	2

4.3 The Committee understand that changes in the staffing pattern are being effected keeping in mind the reduced quantum of work in hand with the Films Division. The Committee stress that the reasons for the present decline in production of films should be analysed.

4.4 The Committee regret that as against an allocation of Rs. 20 crore in the 8th Plan for augmentation, expansion etc., of equipments and units of the Films Division (details in Annexure IV), only Rs. 25 lakh have been spent during the last three years. Considering the availability of funds, it is imperative that concerted efforts are made to expand the activities of the Films Division, commensurate with the role that the Films Division can play as an important media unit of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

NEW DELHI;
October 6, 1993
Asvina 14, 1916 (Saka)

KUMARI VIMLA VERMA,
Chairperson,
Standing Committee on Communications.

ANNEXURE I

POSTING OF NEWSREEL OFFICERS AND ASSISTANT NEWSREEL OFFICERS IN INDIA AS ON TODAY

Sl.No.	State	Head Quarters	Status	Remarks
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad	ANRO	Vacant
2.	Assam Arunachal Pradesh Meghalaya Manipur Mizoram Nagaland Tripura Sikkim	Guwahati	NRO	Vacant
3.	Delhi Union Territory	Delhi	NRO(2)	—
4.	Bihar	Patna	ANRO(1)	—
5.	Gujarat	Ahmedabad	ANRO	—
6.	Haryana Himachal Pradesh Punjab Chandigarh Admn.	Chandigarh	NRO	Vacant
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	Srinagar	NRO	—
8.	Karnataka	Bangalore	NRO	—
9.	Kerala Union Territory of Lakshadeep	Trivandrum	NRO	—
10.	Maharashtra, Goa Daman & Diu	Bombay	NRO	—
11.	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	NRO	—
12.	Orissa	Bhubaneshwar	ANRO	Vacant
13.	Rajasthan	Jaipur	ANRO	—
14.	Tamil Nadu Pondicherry	Madras	NRO	—
15.	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow	NRO	Vacant
16.	West Bengal Andaman & Nicobar Islands	Calcutta	NRO	Vacant

ANNEXURE II

D.O. No. 312/9/91-F(P)

SECRETARY
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

Dated New Delhi October 15, 1991

Dear Shri

As per the allocation of business amongst various Ministries of the Government of India, our Ministry has been entrusted with the task of attending to all the publicity requirements of all the Ministries and Departments of the Central Government. In particular, production and distribution of documentaries and newsreels and other films and film strips for internal and external publicity has been assigned to this Ministry.

2. The production of documentaries and newsreels is being done by the Films Division, a subordinate office of this Ministry, who are engaged in making documentary films and in-depth news magazines so as to bring out the development activities of various departments and also to propagate various policies of the Government aimed at national integration, communal harmony, welfare of the weaker sections, removal of inequalities and other socially desirable goals and objectives. Films Division has a large set up for production of documentaries in Bombay, Delhi, Madras and Bangalore and boasts of latest equipment and technology in film production along with expertise and technical know-how in software.

3. As the largest producer and distributors of documentaries, Films Division has also access to theatrical circuit of approximately 13,000 theatres, where films produced by it are released as a part of the compulsory exhibition scheme. The Ministry also has about 250 field units of the Directorate of Field Publicity, who also disseminate information about the policies and programmes of the government through their Field Publicity Offices in the rural areas through the use of 16mm projectors/ video projection units.

4. You would, therefore, kindly appreciate that production of documentary films through Films Division is not only in consonance with the Allocation of Business Rules, but also ensures a wide viewership and optimum utilisation.

5. It has been observed that gradually the practice of getting documentary films produced by Films Division is being replaced by certain Government departments by assigning the work to private agencies

directly. Films Division, because of its expertise and vast technical knowledge are in a position to produce films in a cost effective manner. The entrusting of production of films to private parties by Ministries could lead to problems of quality, duplication of efforts, higher costs and underutilisation of Government infrastructure created for the purpose, thereby resulting in waste of national resources.

6. I would, therefore, request you to kindly issue instructions to your Ministry and subordinate/attached offices, that in case any documentary is to be produced, the facilities available with the Films Division should be used instead of approaching outside producers/directors directly.

7. May I assure you of our fullest co-operation in production of films to your fullest satisfaction in terms of quality and speed.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-
(Mahesh Prasad)

To

The Secretaries of All Ministries/
Departments.

ANNEXURE III

LIST OF 16MM FEATURETTES PRODUCED BY FILMS DIVISION UPTO 31.10.1993

Sl. No.	Title	Language
1	2	3
1.	*Bhorer Alo*	Bengali
2.	*Mukthi*	Telugu
3.	*Tukrana Katha*	Kannada
4.	*Bhavi*	Malayalam
5.	*Erimalai Sirithadu*	Tamil
6.	*Ichamoti*	Bengali
7.	*Jeebaku Devi Nahin*	Oriya
8.	*Paokham Ama*	Manipuri
9.	*Alokar Ahban*	Assamese
10.	*Ka Lawai Na Kti Jong Ngi*	Khasi
11.	*The Wheel*	Malayalam
12.	*Vadudalai*	Tamil
13.	*Thoondili Meen*	Tamil
14.	*Modella Hejje*	Kannada
15.	*Ballaramour Ballard*	Bengali
16.	*Krishna Dombanada*	Kannada
17.	*Sugandhagiri*	Malyalam
18.	*Sonarmurer Kiran Kishore*	Bengali
19.	*Adivi Poovalu*	Telugu
20.	*Kalyani*	Bengali
21.	*Upalabdhi*	Bengali
22.	*Aijani Sharudhan*	Assamese
23.	*Parichay*	Bengali
24.	*Uday Ragam*	Telugu
25.	*Mohamuktee*	Santhali
26.	*Suggikunitha*	Kannada
27.	*Jagran*	Oriya
28.	*Yapi*	Adi
29.	*Life after Darkness*	Tamil
30.	*Agniparbatham*	Telugu
31.	*Jwalamukhi*	Kannada
32.	*Aana Avama*	Tamil
33.	*Velugu*	Telugu
34.	*Kalyani*	Oriya
35.	*Looms of Salvation*	Bengali
36.	*Parichay*	Hindi

1	2	3
37.	*Uttaradhikar*	Bengali
38.	*Ramhari of Champapara*	Oriya
39.	*Kalinadhiye Theerathu*	Malayalam
40.	*Baan*	Assamese
41.	*Upalabdhi*	Hindi
42.	*Birasat (Uttaradhikar)*	Hindi
43.	*Ramhari of Champapara*	Hindi
44.	*Swikarokti*	Assamese
45.	*Ushodayan*	Telugu
46.	*Bisilqudure*	Kannada
47.	*Kalyani*	Hindi
48.	*Kal Nahin Aai*	Hindi
49.	*Belaku*	Kannada
50.	*Len Den (The Transaction)*	Bengali
51.	*Udbhav*	Hindi
52.	*Bish*	Bengali
53.	*Puzhuthiyum Puyalum*	Tamil
54.	*Story of Tiblu*	Idu
55.	*Manush*	Bengali
56.	*Uttaran*	Bengali
57.	*Utthan*	Hindi
58.	*Story of Tiblu*	Hindi
59.	*Pujari Krishna*	Kannada
60.	*Behula*	Bengali
61.	*Abhiyutthan*	Hindi
62.	*Uday Ragam*	Hindi
63.	*Road to Palaseandha*	Oriya
64.	*Iman*	Bengali
65.	*Abhishaap*	Hindi
66.	*Ullathil Nalla Ullam*	Tamil
67.	*Ujan*	Bengali
68.	*Raasta*	Nagamese
69.	*Melu Keelu*	Kannada
70.	*Bayen*	Hindi
71.	*Sainyan Ke Gaon Main*	Hindi
72.	*Avinashi*	Hindi
73.	*Daag*	Oriya
74.	*Kal Ki Baten*	Hindi
75.	*Prayaschit*	Hindi
76.	*Inaam*	Hindi
77.	*Harjeet*	Hindi
78	*Choodiyan*	Hindi

1	2	3
79.	*Jamun Ka Ped*	Hindi
80.	*Aloya Phera*	Bengali
81.	*Savera*	Hindi
82.	*Bhoomi Putra*	Marathi

ANNUXURE IV

(Rupees in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	Total outlay 8th Plan	Year	S.B.G.	R.E.	Actual Expenditure
1.	Fittings and fixtures for editing and animation Deptts. of Second Phase building of Films Division, Bombay.	10.00	1992-93	10.00	10.00	17.90
			1993-94	—	—	—
			1994-95	—	—	—
2.	Production of special featurette films in 16mm especially intended for rural audience and development of 16mm technology.	650.00	1992-93	137.00	148.73	112.19
			1993-94	42.50	75.94	64.75
			1994-95	80.00	—	1.73*
3.	Augmentation and replacement of cinematographic equipments for Bombay & Delhi and Renovation of Films Division Auditorium at Delhi.	800.00	1992-93	341.00	301.00	3.44
			1993-94	36.00	nil	nil
			1994-95	150.00	—	nil
4.	Construction of 3rd phase building of Films Division, Bombay	1200.00	1992-93	15.00	74.25	3.47
			1993-94	285.00	48.00	17.96
			1994-95	33.00	—	nil
5.	Creation of marketing and sales promotion cell for Films Division's films.	10.00	1992-93	5.00	5.00	4.75
			1993-94	1.00	0.50	0.50
			1994-95	5.00	—	nil
6.	International Documentary and Short film festival	150.00	1992-93	5.00	5.00	3.44
			1993-94	65.00	68.00	65.73
			1994-95	5.00	—	0.53*
7.	Opening of new production centre in Orissa.	—	1992-93	—	—	—
			1993-94	—	—	—
			1994-95	—	—	—
8.	Introduction of computers in Films Division	5.00	1992-93	1.00	1.00	1.00
			1993-94	—	—	—
			1994-95	5.00	—	nil
9.	Replacement of old black and white prints for archive.	—	1992-93	—	—	—
			1993-94	—	—	—
			1994-95	—	—	—

*Expenditure upto June, 94

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	Total outlay 8th Plan	Year	S.B.G.	R.E.	Actual Expenditure
10.	Professional training and orientation courses.	10.00	1992-93	2.00	2.20	1.66
			1993-94	1.00	1.00	0.85
			1994-95	1.00	—	0.05
11.	Replacement of chilled water air conditioning plant in phase II building.	—	1992-93	—	—	—
			1993-94	—	—	—
			1994-95	10.00	—	nil
12.	Production of special films.	10.00	1992-93	10.00	10.00	1.32
			1993-94	—	—	—
			1994-95	—	—	—
13.	Expansion of Cartoon Film Unit for production of animation films.	50.00	1992-93	10.00	8.00	—
			1993-94	—	—	—
			1994-95	10.00	—	nil
14.	Augmentation and strengthening of Feed Back Cell.	5.00	1992-93	1.00	1.00	1.00
			1993-94	1.50	1.50	0.66
			1994-95	1.00	—	nil
15.	Phased replacement of Black and White prints for theatrical release.	500.00	1992-93	100.00	75.00	75.00
			1993-94	—	—	—
			1994-95	—	—	—
16.	Implementation of Cultural Exchange Programmes	—	1992-93	—	1.97	—
			1993-94	—	—	—
			1994-95	—	—	—

ANNEXURE V

A. Statement indicating details of 69 posts to be abolished in Films Division

Sl. No.	Categories of posts with pay sacles	No. of posts to be abo-lish-ed	Whether permanent or temporary	Office/Unit where the post exists
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Director (Rs. 3000-100-3500-125-4500)	2	Parmanent	HQ Office at Bombay
2.	Deputy Director (Rs.2200-75-2800-EB-100-4000)	2	—do—	—do—
3.	Commentary Speaker (On contract fee basis) (Rs.2000-60-2300-EB-75-3200-100-3500)	3	Fee basis	—do—
4.	Cameraman (Rs.2000-60-2300-EB-75-3200)	1	Permanent	—do—
5.	Artist Grade-I (Rs.1400-40-1800-EB-50-2300)	1	—do—	—do—
6.	Assistant Recordist (Rs. 1400-40-1800-EB-50-2300)	1	—do—	—do—
7.	Junior Hindi Translator (Rs. 1400-40-1600-50-2300-EB-60-2600)	2	Temporary	One each for Calcutta and Bombay Branches

1	2	3	4	5
8.	Stenographer Grade-II (Rs. 1400-40-1600-50-2300-EB-60-2600)	1	Permanent	HQ Office at Bombay
9.	Stenographer Grade-III (Rs. 1200-30-1560-EB-40-2040)	5	Temporary-2 Permanent-3	—do— —do—
10.	Junior Booker (Rs. 1200-30-1560-EB-40-2040)	2	Temporary Permanent	Bombay Branch Calcutta Branch
11.	Unit Manager (Rs. 1400-40-1800-EB-50-2300)	1	Permanent	HQ Office at Bombay
12.	Make-up-man (Rs. 1350-30-1440-40-1800-EB-50-2300)	1	—do—	—do—
13.	Tailor Master (Rs. 1200-30-1560-EB-40-2040)	1	—do—	—do—
14.	Machanic (Rs. 1150-25-1500)	1	—do—	—do—
15.	Electrician (Rs. 1150-25-1500)	1	—do—	—do—
16.	Upper Division Clerk (Rs. 1200-30-1560-EB-40-2040)	4	Temporary	—do—

1	2	3	4	5
17.	Lower Division Clerk (Rs. 950-20-1150-EB-25-1500)	20	Temporary —do— Permanent Temporary Permanent —do— —do— —do— —do— —do— —do— —do— Temporary Permanent —do— Temporary Permanent Temporary —do— —do—	—do— —do— —do— Bombay Branch —do— —do— Bangalore Branch Calcutta Branch —do— —do— —do— Hyderabad Branch Lucknow Branch —do— Madras Branch Madurai Branch Nagpur Branch Trivandrum Branch —do— Vijayawada Branch
18.	Record Keeper (Rs. 825-15-900-EB-20-1200)	1	Temporary	HQ Office at Bombay
19.	Daftary (Rs. 775-12-955-EB-14-1025)	2	Temporary-1 Permanent-1	—do— —do—
20.	Packer (Rs. 750-12-870-EB-14-940)	1	Permanent	—do—
21.	Studio Boy (Rs. 750-12-870-EB-14-940)	1	Permanent	—do—

1	2	3	4	5
22.	Mazadoor (Rs. 750-12-870-EB-14-940)	5	Temporary-1 Permanent —do— —do— —do—	—do— —do— —do— 4Bambay Branch Calcutta Branch
23.	Peon (Rs. 750-12-870-EB-14-940)	10	Temporary —do— Permanent —do— —do— —do— —do— —do— —do—	Madurai Branch 2Vijayawada Branch Bombay Branch Nagpur Branch Calcutta Branch Madras Branch 8Lucknow Branch Hyderabad Branch Bangalore Branch Trivandrum Branch

B. STATEMENT INDICATING DETAILS OF 27 POSTS TO BE CREATED IN FILMS DIVISION

Sl. No.	Category of post	Scale of Pay	No. of posts to be created	Office/Unit for which the post is to be created.
1.	Senior Hindi Translator	Rs. 1640-60-2600-EB-75-2900	1	Hqs. Office at Bombay
2.	Stenographer Grade-I	—do—	3	—do—
3.	Security Officer	—do—	1	—do—
4.	Junior Hindi Translator	Rs. 1400-40-1600-50-2300-EB-60-2600	1	—do—
5.	Technical Assistant	Rs. 1400-40-1800-EB-50-2300	2	—do—
6.	Projection Room Operator	Rs. 1350-30-1440-40-1800-EB-50-2300	1	—do—
7.	Junior Booker	Rs. 1200-30-1560-EB-40-2040	4	One Post each for Madurai, Vijayawada, Hyderabad and Madras Branches
8.	Upper Division Clerk	—do—	2	One post each for Madurai and Vijaywada Branches
9.	Assistant Projection Room Operator	Rs. 950-20-1150-EB-25-1400	2	Hqs. Office at Bombay
10.	Film Checker	Rs. 800-15-1010-EB-20-1150	2	—do—
11.	Library Attendant	—do—	1	—do—
12.	Chowkidar	Rs. 750-12-870-EB-140-940	1	—do—
13.	Mazdoor	—do—	6	One post each for Lucknow, Madurai, Vijayawada, Trivandrum, Hyderabad at Madras Branches

C. STATEMENT INDICATING DETAILS OF 14 POSTS TO BE UPGRADED IN FILMS DIVISION

Sl. No.	Existing post	Post to be Upgraded as	Existing scale of pay	Scale of pay after upgradation	No. of posts	Offices/Unit where post is to be upgraded
1.	Senior Booker	Distribution Supervisor	Rs. 1200-2040	Rs. 1400-2300	12	10 for distribution Branch offices at Lucknow, Nagpur, Bombay, Calcutta, Hyderabad, Vijayawada, Bangalore, Madras, Madurai and Trivandrum Branch and two for Headquarters office at Bombay.
2.	Caretaker	Caretaker	Rs. 1200-1800	Rs. 1350-2200	1	Head office, Bombay
3.	Receptionist	Receptionist	Rs. 950-1500	Rs. 1200-2040	1	—do—

D. STATEMENT INDICATING DETAILS OF 2 POSTS TO BE DOWNGRADED IN FILMS DIVISION

S. No.	Existing post	Post to be downgraded as	Existing scale of pay	Scale of pay after down-gradation	No. of posts	Offices/Unit where post is to be down-graded
1.	Assistant Editor Grade I	Asstt. Editor Grade II	Rs. 1400-2300	Rs. 950-1400	2	Head Office, Bombay

E. Gist of Procedural and other changes suggested by the SIU in their Report

Gist of procedural and other changes suggested by the SIU	*Whether accepted for implementation*
1. One Assistant Maintenance Engineer from Maintenance Section may be used to lookafter the needs of the Maintenance of vehicle and for the procurement of technical stores by Stores Section.	As per the recommendation of the SIU, one Asstt. maintenance Engineer has been posted to lookafter the work of maintenance of vehicles and for procurement of technical stores by the stores section.
2. Taking into consideration the work / main functions of the Plan Policy Cell, the name of the Cell may be changed to Administration (General) Section.	As recommended by the SIU, the name of Plan Policy Cell has been changed as 'General Section'.
3. As most of the Job of I-I Section are of accounting nature, use of a Computer is recommended.	The recommendations of SIU have been noted for compliance. Necessary action regarding deputing officials for Computer training has been initiated.
4. A view may be taken as to whether the work relating to Film Import Selection Committee should be handled by the Films Division, if so, necessary staff may be diverted from NFDC.	The work of Film Import Selection Committee has been transferred to Central Board of Film Certification.
5. The pending work relating to proforma accounts for the year 1984-85 onwards may be entrusted to a private computer agency / job basis, at the earliest.	The recommendation is being examined.
6. The job of conducting Film Festivals both feature films and documentaries may be entrusted to the Films Division.	The recommendation is under examination.

MINUTES OF THE TWENTIETH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS (1993-94)

The Committee sat on Thursday, 28 October, 1993 from 15.00 hrs. to 17.20 hrs. in Committee Room "C", Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi,

PRESENT

Kumari Vimla Verma—*Chairperson*

MEMBERS

Lok Sabha

2. Shri R. Jeevarathinam
3. Shri Shravan Kumar Patel
4. Shri Laeta Umbrey
5. Shri Surajbhanu Solanki
6. Shri N. Dennis
7. Shri Jagmeet Singh Brar
8. Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal
9. Shri B. Devarajan
10. Shri Somjibhai Damor
11. Shri Mohan Lal Jhikram
12. Shri Lal Krishna Advani
13. Shri Shivsharan Verma
14. Shri Rupchand Pal
15. Shri Satyagopal Misra
16. Shri A. Asokaraj
17. Shri Raj Kishore Mahto
18. Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal
19. Shri Chandrajeet Yadav

Rajya Sabha

20. Dr. Z. A. Ahmad
21. Shri Virendra Kataria
22. Shri Mohammand Afzal *alias* Meem Afzal
23. Smt. Jayanthi Natarajan
24. Shri Vizol
25. Shri Brahmadeo Anand Paswan

SECRETARIAT

1. Smt. Revathi Bedi—*Deputy Secretary*
2. Shri K. K. Dhawan—*Under Secretary*

WITNESSES

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING:Ks

1. SHRI R. K. BHARGAVA, SECRETARY
2. SHRI BHASKAR GHOSE, O.S.D.
3. SHRI BASU, ADDL. SECY.
4. SHRI S.C. MAHALIK, ADDL. SECY. & FIN. ADVISER
5. SHRI N. CHAWALA, JOINT SECRETARY
6. SHRI K. S. VENKATARAMAN, DY. SECRETARY
7. SHRI R. KRISHNA MOHAN, CHIEF PRODUCER, F.D.
8. SHRI JOHN SHANKARAMANGALAM, DIRECTOR, F.T.I.I.
9. SHRI RAVI GUPTA, M.D., NFDC
10. SHRI SHAKTI SAMANTA, CHAIRMAN, CBFC
11. SHRI D.K. BHATT, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, N'CYP

THE CHAIRPERSON WELCOMED THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND THE SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING, INTRODUCED HIS COLLEAGUES TO THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE.

3. THE COMMITTEE DESIRED TO KNOW THE VIEWS OF THE WITNESSES ON SUBJECTS SUCH AS FILMS DIVISION AND NATIONAL CENTRE OF FILMS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE, ETC. AND SOUGHT CERTAIN CLARIFICATIONS THEREON.

4. THEREAFTER, THE CHAIRPERSON THANKED THE OFFICERS OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING FOR EXPRESSING THEIR FREE AND FRANK VIEWS ON THE SUBJECT.

5. A VERBATIM RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS HAS BEEN KEPT.

6. THE COMMITTEE THEN DECIDED TO MEET ON 29 OCTOBER 1993 TO TAKE FURTHER EVIDENCE OF THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING.

The Committee then adjourned.

MINUTES OF THE THIRTEENTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS (1994-95)

The Committee met on Thursday, 6 October, 1994, from 15.00 hrs. to 16.45 hours in Committee Room "C", Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Kumari Vimla Verma—*Chairperson*

MEMBERS

Lok Sabha

2. Shri R. Jeevarathinam
3. Shri Shravan Kumar Patel
4. Shri N. Dennis
5. Shri Jagmeet Singh Brar
6. Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal
7. Shri Kodikkunil Suresh
8. Shri Somjibhai Damor
9. Shri Mohan Lal Jhikram
10. Shri Mahesh Kumar Kanodia
11. Shri Lal Krishna Advani
12. Shri Ram Pujan Patel
13. Shri Rupchand Pal
14. Shri Satyagopal Misra
15. Shri A. Asokaraj
16. Shri G.M.C. Balayogi
17. Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal

Rajya Sabha

18. Shri Prakash Yashwant Ambedkar
19. Shri Jalaludin Ansari
20. Shri M. A. Baby
21. Shri Virendra Kataria
22. Shri Aas Mohammad
23. Shrimati Malti Devi
24. Shri Mohammed Afzal *Alias* Meem Afzal
25. Shrimati Anandiben Jethabhai Patel
26. Shrimati Veena Verma

SECRETARIAT

Shri S.C. Gupta—*Joint Secretary*
Shri S. K. Sharma—*Under Secretary*

The Committee took up for consideration, the draft Report on "Films

Division", and adopted the same with additions/modifications as indicated in the Appendix.

2. Thereafter, the Committee authorised the Chairperson to finalise and present the Report to Lok Sabha.

The Committee then adjourned.

APPENDIX

Page No.	Para No./ Line	Amendments/Modifications
5.	1.8 Line 11	*Add* at the end—"There may be reasons for this trend".
	1.9 Line 1	*For* "The Committee feel" *Read* "However the Committee feel"
	Line 2	*For* "the visual media, a thorough review", *Read* "the audio-visual media, and the social obligations expected to be discharged by the Films Division, a thorough review" (Paras 1.8 and 1.9 to be combined)
	Line 4-7	*Omit* "The Committee emphasise ..... viable organisation."
7.	2.4 Line 2	*Omit* "are stated to be"
10.	2.9 Line 5-7	*Omit* the last sentence—"The Committee feel that.....for Doordarshan".
	2.10 Line 9	*Add* at the end—"The Committee feel that there is need for greater interaction between the Films Division and Doordarshan, so that the capacities developed by these two organisations can supplement each other." (Paras 2.9 and 2.10 to be combined).
12.	2.15 Lines 11 & 12	*For* "It will not be proper to treat the North-East as a monolithic entity and assume..." *Read* "The North-East should not be treated as a monolithic entity. It will be erroneous to assume ...."
	2.15 Last Line	*For* "imbalance" *Read* "situation"
14.	2.21 Lines 10 & 11	*For* "are dismayed" *Read* "regret"

1	2	3
	Lines 12 & 13	*For* "understand how such a situation has come about." *Read* "remedy the situation"
16.	2.25 Line 6	*For* "admitted" *Read* "stated"
	Line 7	*After* "in hand" *Add* "and"
17.	Lines 9 & 10	*For* "stress that.....loss of time." *Read* "urge that the Ministry should explore the possibilities of the optimum use of its infrastructure, including the lending of facilities to fresh graduates of the Film and Television Institute of India, Pune, to make experimental films.
18.	2.30 Line 5	*After* "that" *Add* "serious"
19.	2.33 Line 3	*For* "Western States, also ....." *Read* "Western States, particularly tribal languages and dialects
	Lines 5 to 8	*Omit* the sentence—"In particular, the tribal languages and dialects of Central India must be given adequate representation.
20.	2.34	*Add* at the end—"In the course of this review the utility and relevance of the 16mm technology also needs to be reassessed.
20A.	2.38 Line 1	*For* "The Committee are constrained" *Read* "The Committee are concerned"
	Lines 6 & 9	*For* "would like to be..... Cartoon Films Unit," *Read* "regret to note that even the sanctioned budgetary outlay of Rs. 20 lakh during the years 1992-93 and 1994-95 on Cartoon Films Unit, has not been utilised. They would like to be apprised of the reasons therefor.
21.	2.40 Line 3	*For* "through" *Read* "across"
25.	3.11 Lines 9-15	*Omit* "The Committee are surprised ..... on the part of the exhibitors."

1	2	3
26.	Para 3.12	To be combined with para 3.11
	3.12	*For*
	Line 1	"moreover suggest"
		Read "feel"
26.	3.14	*For*
	Line 1	"The Committee ..... and 978"
		Read "The Committee are sorry to note that as against the target of 3094 for sale of non-theatrical prints in 1992-93, the actual figure was only 269; and against the target figure of 5960 for 1993-94, the actual figure was 978."
		Add at the end— "This is a serious matter and the Committee would like to know the reasons for this unsatisfactory performance."
27.	3.15	*Omit* Para "The Committee feel.....of revenue"
29.	4.4	*For* "note that there is"
	Line 1	*Read* "regret that as against"
	Lines 4 & 5	*For* "The Committee find that only 25 crore" *Read* "only Rs. 25 lakh".

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